

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for identifying a proteinaceous perturbagen that inhibits viral growth-related cell death, comprising the steps of:

- (a) introducing a library of ~~perturbagen-encoding~~ nucleic acids, each library member encoding a perturbagen within a scaffold structure, into a population of host cells;
- (b) expressing the encoded proteinaceous perturbagens within said scaffold structure in said population of host cells;
- ~~(c)-(b)~~ exposing said perturbagen-bearing cells to a virus; and
- ~~(d)-(e)~~ selecting for growth-proficient cells; and-
- (e) recovering from said growth-proficient cells a sublibrary of nucleic acids encoding perturbagens that confer inhibition of viral growth-related cell death.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said step of selecting for growth-proficient cells comprises detecting cells that are not productively infected with said virus.

Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 2, wherein said step of detection comprises detection of non-fluorescent cells.

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said step of selecting for growth-proficient cells comprises a stringent selection for growth.

Claim 5 (cancelled)

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method of claim 1~~5~~, wherein said scaffold is non-fluorescing GFP.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said virus is selected from the group consisting of rhinovirus, reovirus, influenza virus, adenovirus, human immunodeficiency virus, human papilloma virus, hepatitis virus and herpes virus.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method of claim 7, wherein said virus is human immunodeficiency virus.

Claims 9-13 (cancelled)

Claim 14 (new): A method for identifying a cell proliferation gene or gene fragment that inhibits viral growth-related cell death, comprising the steps of:

- (a) introducing a library of putative cell proliferation genes or gene fragments into a population of host cells;
- (b) expressing said library in said population of host cells;
- (c) exposing said library-bearing host cell population to a virus;
- (d) selecting for growth-proficient cells; and
- (e) recovering from said growth-proficient cells a sublibrary of cell proliferation genes or gene fragments that confer inhibition of viral growth-related cell death.

Claim 15 (new): A method for identifying a cellular target involved in viral growth within a cell, comprising the steps of:

- (a) exposing in a protein interaction assay (i) a pertubagen obtained by the method of claim 1 to (ii) a population of putative cellular targets obtained from said growth-

proficient cells; and

(b) identifying a cellular target that interacts with said perturbagen.

Claim 16 (new): The method of claim 15, wherein said step of identifying comprises a yeast two-hybrid interaction assay.